AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A food additive composition which contains 100 parts by weight of at least one inorganic compound (A) selected from the group consisting of calcium compounds and magnesium compounds having a solubility in water at 20°C of not more than 0.1 g/100 g of water, 1 to 90 parts by weight of gum arabic (B) and 0.01 to 5 parts by weight of [[a]] at least one chelating agent (C) selected from the group consisting of condensed phosphates, malates, succinates, tartarates, glutamates, EDTA salts, and citrates.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A food additive composition which contains 100 parts by weight of [[a]] an inorganic compound (A), 1 to 90 parts by weight of gum arabic (B), 0.01 to 5 parts by weight of [[a]] at least one chelating agent (C) selected from the group consisting of condensed phosphates, malates, succinates, tartarates, glutamates, EDTA salts, and citrates and 1 to 90 parts by weight of at least one additive (D) selected from the group consisting of emulsifiers, thickening stabilizers, modified starches, soybean polysaccharides and oligosaccharides, wherein a total content of said component (B) is not less than 20 % by weight of the total amount of the components (B) and (D).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The food additive composition of claims 1 or 2, wherein the inorganic compound (A) is at least one selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate, dolomite, magnesium carbonate and magnesium phosphate.

Claim 4 (Canceled):

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The food additive composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein the chelating agent (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting of malates, succinates, tartarates, glutamates, EDTA salts, gluconates and citrates.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The food additive composition of claim 2, wherein the additive (D) is at least one selected from the group consisting of sucrose fatty acid esters having [[an]] a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) of not less than 8, glycerol fatty acid esters, sorbitan fatty acid esters, propylene glycol fatty acid esters, modified starches, soybean polysaccharides, propylene glycol alginic acid esters, tamarind gum, gum ghatti, traganth gum, xanthan gum, pullulan, cassia gum, locust bean gum, arabinogalactan, sclero gum and origosaccharides.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The food additive composition of claim 2, wherein the additive (D) is at least one selected from the group consisting of sucrose fatty acid esters having [[an]] a hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) of not less than 8, glycerol fatty acid esters, modified

starches, propylene glycol alginic acid esters, tamarind gum, gum ghatti, xanthan gum, pullulan, locust bean gum, arabinogalactan, sclero gum and origosaccharides.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The food additive composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein a calcium ion concentration (mg/l) satisfies the following requirement (a):

(a) $0 \leq M \leq 10$

M: calcium ion concentration (mg/l) of a food additive composition obtained by adjusting a solid matter concentration of calcium to 10% by weight after pulverization and/or dispersion.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The food additive composition on claim 1 or 2, wherein a weight average particle diameter K (μm) in particle size distribution of the inorganic compound contained in the food additive composition is $0.04\mu m \leq K \leq 0.8\ \mu m$.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A food composition containing a food additive composition defined by claim 1 or 2.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The food composition of claim 10, wherein the food additive is for coffee or black tea.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The food composition of claim 11, wherein an ingredient of the additive for coffee or black tea is derived from vegetables.